

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Previously Presented) A gas bag module for a vehicle occupant restraint system, said gas bag module (10) including a gas generator carrier (14) and a covering cap (24), said gas generator carrier (14) having a base (16) extending perpendicular to a central axis (A) of said gas bag module and a peripheral wall (18) extending in an axial direction from an outer edge of said base (16), said covering cap (24) having a side wall (30) extending in an axial direction from a front wall (26) of said covering cap (24), detent hooks (32) formed on an edge of said side wall (30) facing away from said front wall (26), said detent hooks engaging into corresponding detent openings (34) in said base (16) of said gas generator carrier (14), thus forming a detent mechanism for connecting the covering cap (24) to the gas generator carrier (14).

Claim 2 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 1, wherein an external diameter of said side wall (30) corresponds to an internal diameter (18) of said peripheral wall (18) and said detent openings (34) in said base (16) adjoin said peripheral wall (18).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a vehicle occupant restraint system, said gas bag module (10) including a gas generator carrier (14) and

a covering cap (24), said gas generator carrier (14) having a base (16) extending perpendicular to a central axis (A) of said gas bag module and a peripheral wall (18) extending in an axial direction from an outer edge of said base (16), said covering cap (24) having a side wall (30) extending in an axial direction from a front wall (26) of said covering cap (24), detent hooks (32) formed on an edge of said side wall (30) facing away from said front wall (26), said detent hooks engaging into corresponding detent openings (34) in said base (16) of said gas generator carrier (14), thus forming a detent mechanism for connecting the covering cap (24) to the gas generator carrier (14), an external diameter of said side wall (30) corresponds to an internal diameter (18) of said peripheral wall (18) and said detent openings (34) in said base (16) adjoin said peripheral wall (18). The gas bag module according to ~~claim 2~~, wherein said detent hooks (32) point outwards and engage behind an underside of said peripheral wall (18) facing away from said front wall (26).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a vehicle occupant restraint system, said gas bag module (10) including a gas generator carrier (14) and a covering cap (24), said gas generator carrier (14) having a base (16) extending perpendicular to a central axis (A) of said gas bag module and a peripheral wall (18) extending in an axial direction from an outer edge of said base (16), said covering cap (24) having a side wall (30) extending in an axial direction from a front wall (26) of said covering cap (24), detent hooks (32) formed on an edge of said side wall (30) facing away from said front wall (26), said detent hooks engaging into corresponding detent openings (34) in said base (16) of said gas generator carrier (14), thus

forming a detent mechanism for connecting the covering cap (24) to the gas generator carrier (14). ~~The gas bag module according to claim 1,~~ wherein said detent hooks (32) can be elastically deformed in a radial direction.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a vehicle occupant restraint system, said gas bag module (10) including a gas generator carrier (14) and a covering cap (24), said gas generator carrier (14) having a base (16) extending perpendicular to a central axis (A) of said gas bag module and a peripheral wall (18) extending in an axial direction from an outer edge of said base (16), said covering cap (24) having a side wall (30) extending in an axial direction from a front wall (26) of said covering cap (24), detent hooks (32) formed on an edge of said side wall (30) facing away from said front wall (26), said detent hooks engaging into corresponding detent openings (34) in said base (16) of said gas generator carrier (14), thus forming a detent mechanism for connecting the covering cap (24) to the gas generator carrier (14). ~~The gas bag module according to claim 1,~~ wherein spring elements (36) are formed onto said base (16), which hold said detent hooks (32) in position when said gas bag module (10) is installed.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 5, wherein said spring elements (36) can be elastically deformed in an installation direction of said covering cap (24).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 5, wherein said spring elements (36) provide for a radially outwardly directed prestress of said detent hooks (32).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 1, wherein the gas generator carrier (14) consists of plastic.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A gas bag module for a vehicle occupant restraint system, said gas bag module (10) including a gas generator carrier (14) and a covering cap (24), said gas generator carrier (14) having a base (16) extending perpendicular to a central axis (A) of said gas bag module and a peripheral wall (18) extending in an axial direction from an outer edge of said base (16), said covering cap (24) having a side wall (30) extending in an axial direction from a front wall (26) of said covering cap (24), detent hooks (32) formed on an edge of said side wall (30) facing away from said front wall (26), said detent hooks engaging into corresponding detent openings (34) in said base (16) of said gas generator carrier (14), thus forming a detent mechanism for connecting the covering cap (24) to the gas generator carrier (14). ~~The gas bag module according to claim 1, wherein detent hooks contact said peripheral wall (18).~~

Claim 10 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 9 including a gas bag (20), wherein said gas bag is not positioned between said side wall (30) and said peripheral wall (18).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 1 wherein said detent hooks (32) are formed on the edge of said side wall (30) before said detent hooks (32) engage into said detent openings (34).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 5, wherein said spring elements (36) yield to allow said detent hooks (32) to pass through said detent openings (34) when said gas bag module (10) is being installed.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) The gas bag module according to claim 1, wherein said covering cap (24) is connected to said gas generator carrier (14) only by a pair of said detent hooks (32).